### TOWN OF BEAUX ARTS VILLAGE

#### **PLANNING COMMISSION**

# **MINUTES**

November 15, 2015 Kendall

**Present:** Commissioners Jeff Kendall, Bennet Yen, Paula Dix **Excused**: Chairperson Jeff Jochums, Commissioner Jan Johnston

Staff: Planner Mona Green, Deputy Clerk Angela Kulp.

Commissioner Kendall called the meeting to order at 7:12pm.

**MINUTES:** Commissioner Dix moved to approve the October 15, 2015 minutes as written. Commissioner Kendall seconded. Vote: 3 For, 0 Against. Motion carried.

**REPORTS:** There were no reports.

**OLD BUSINESS:** There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS: Historic Preservation- Certified Local Governments (CLG's)

Deputy Clerk Kulp reported the Commission's CLG letter was distributed to all property owners early November. She distributed received responses to the Commissioners, who reviewed and discussed them in detail. Responses tallied noted that out of 117 properties, the Commission received 21 responses to their CLG letter.

Note: 15 property owners identified themselves so their home's age is known 6 were anonymous so their home's age is not specifically known.

16 had detailed comments, many with questions and suggestions

The answers to questions posed were as follows on the responses received:

Support of CLG concept: 15 Yes 5 No
Homes > 50 years old: 15 Yes 5 No

(Homes > 85 years: 3 Yes) (Homes > 100 years: 2 Yes)

• Would consider placing home on Historic Register if home > 50 years old:

o 13 Yes 8 No

Deputy Clerk Kulp noted that while the responses covered the spectrum, there was extremely strong support for preservation of just the original homes with architectural and historic significance, contributing to the Town's character. She estimated original homes over 100 years old number 16, many of which are on larger lots that have never been updated, and therefore are at the highest risk of loss to the community. She also reminded the Commissioners that part of what makes Beaux Arts unique is the range of architectural styles spanning a century, so there are also a few structures post Depression and WWII era, and several mid- century and post modern structures that

would all represent homes greater than 50 years old in half the town's current housing inventory.

Commissioner Yen noted there were some questions raised by residents, and a few of those that the Commission could not immediately answer during their discussion. The questions received included focus on specific examples of tax savings and exemption calculations, how any preservation or cost savings would be impacted by IBC codes, regional commissioner requirements and duties, compliance responsibility, and how outside experts would be involved with any potential technical reviews. Commissioner Dix agreed to contact the State's DAHP (Dept. of Archeology and Historic Preservation) with these resident questions, for answers she'll share at the next meeting, and perhaps also through the Town's newsletter if the CLG concept warrants further pursuance.

During discussion, Commissioner Kendall wondered if the CLG concept was still worth pursuing and what else would be worth reviewing instead. Commissioner Dix reminded him there are several ideas to pursue the Commission is considering, but the Commission has focused on the CLG concept first and she likes it especially because it is easy to implement at the local level, it has a structure already set up by the state, and there is third party independent involvement for assistance and review by a regional commission. She conceded it does add another layer of bureaucracy, and getting residents' questions answered will be an important next step to determine the CLG's viability here.

## **NEW BUSINESS: Zoning Code**

Deputy Clerk Kulp reported Commissioner Johnston's schedule prevented her from attendance tonight, but she is inviting Water District Supervisor Bob Durr to the next meeting to share his career insight and concerns on the Zoning Code.

**Adjourn:** Commissioner Yen moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Kendall seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:48pm. Vote: 3 For, 0 Against. Motion carried.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be at Commissioner Dix's home on Thursday, <u>January 21, 2016</u>, 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted, Angela Kulp, Deputy Town Clerk